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LIVE-IN-LABS

UTTARKHAND

My experiences in the village of Dunda in the Uttarkhasi district in Uttarkhand. I have myself experiences that are faced by the people of the village and have my suggestions towards the betterment of their living.

INTRODUCTION

Live in labs (lila) to me is a very different and a challenging experience that I have had in my life till now.

The barriers I had to face were many ,but at the end of the visit I had learnt to face my challenges and I had also devised a plan to overcome my barriers and achieve targets.

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND SUGGESTIONS

During our survey the problems we identified and the suggestions we made after discussions with my team are as follows.

HYGIENE

We went to the village to observe the drainage and sanitation facilities ,our findings were as follows

1. Most houses in the village follows open drain system which causes foul smell in the locality and also serves as breeding ground for mosquitoes.



2. People have just started using toilets and new toilets are being built around the village.



But still few toilets in the village are unused not being maintained properly.



3. Other income for villagers:

We found that there are some people have started doing terrace farming but not in large scale.

Other than vegetables some also grow banana trees and sugar cane for their own purposes. They also do sell these in small scale during season time.

We also observed that one set of people near Dunda market do fishing for their own use. When they get more fish they do sell fish in Darsha a small town 2km away from Dunda .

We visited Dunda market to know what is the main business there mostly we found around 8 tea stalls ,5 vegetable shops ,3 sweet stalls and some small stationeries. People from Dunda village (esp., male) most of them work or own these shops.

These are the income for villagers other than agriculture

Suggestions

We found mango trees grow here much, people can do mango farming.

We found there are lot of curry leaves grown in abundance, people can use these curry leaves make a powder out of these leaves and sell it in shops in Dunda market and in uttarkasi main market.

We also observed than there are lot of bamboo trees grown here, if people are given training to make craft work with these bamboo and sell it during season time by them self it will give them extra income .

These are our few suggestions; we have more implementable suggestions to raise their income.





4. Disaster relief

Today we met site engineer of relief works Mr. Ramjee during his break. He was explaining us about the restoration works being carried out where landslides were prominent. Here cement bases are laid out and large stones are arranged uniformly on those bases. These stones are held together by wire nets which will prevent landslides in the future and allow the flood water to pass through without disrupting the soil. He also said the construction works are delayed because of lack of labour problem.



Emergency bridge was constructed by the army, which is being used by the villagers.

Danda Majaf Motor Road, a World bank project of 4.6 kilometres at a cost of 3.4 crore rupees is being constructed with the estimated completion date being 9/09/2016.

ABOUT THE VILLAGE

I was really mesmerized about the culture and scenic beauty of the place .People here don't even lock their homes when they go out,that's the trust they have among them ,moreover they do not even have boundaries for their agricultural lands ,this shows the unity among the villagers .

When we went there ,the villagers received us well,we met with the elders of the village ,they responded well too,we had a huge support form the youths of the village as they helped us with our survey ,they also served as the mode through which we were able to contact the most intricate people of the village.

CONCLUSION

On the whole my visit to the dunda valley was once in a life time experience for me .I learned so many thing which my city life could not teach me. I've also decided to get back to the same village once in a while and see to that the changes we are making does evolve and makes the village much more better place to live.